

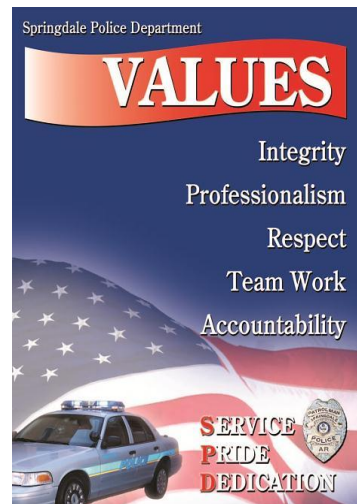
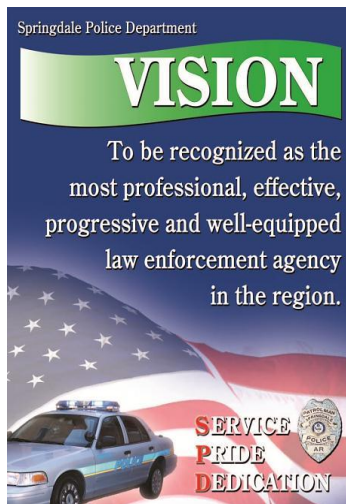
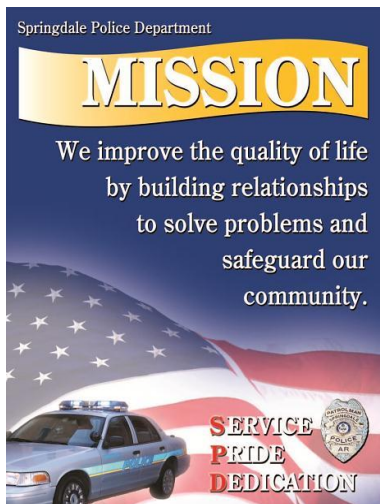
Springdale Police Department Annual Report 2011



Kathy O'Kelley, Chief of Police
201 Spring St.,
Springdale AR, 72764
(479)756-8200
www.springdalear.gov

Contents

Information About the Department and Area.....	3
Staffing and Organizational Chart	4
Investigations Division	5
Communications Center	6
Reported Crimes.....	6
Incident Reports	8
Arrest Data.....	8
Traffic Data.....	10
Internal Affairs / Employee Issues.....	11



Information About the Department and Area

Springdale is located in Northwest Arkansas in Washington and Benton Counties. With recent annexations the city encompasses approximately 47 square miles with a population of over 71,000. Springdale is in the middle of the Northwest Arkansas Metropolitan Statistical Area, which is one of the fastest growing metropolitan areas in the country with a population just under 475,000. Springdale is the second largest city in the Northwest Arkansas area and the fourth largest city in the state.

The Springdale Police Department has a total of 169 employees, including 121 sworn officers. Management of the Springdale Police Department is divided into four divisions, each of which is overseen by a captain.

- The Patrol Division is the largest and comprises the majority of uniformed patrol officers. It consists of three patrol shifts, the crime suppression team, tactical team, hostage negotiation team, traffic enforcement units, and the drug interdiction unit.
- The Investigative Division is made up of detectives that investigate reported crime in the city and also includes the narcotics unit, sex offender registration, cybercrimes, crime prevention, and nuisance abatement. In addition, several investigators are assigned to task forces in partnerships with local, county, state, and federal law enforcement to investigate specific types of crime.
- The Administrative Division oversees the communications center, the training unit, public information, internal affairs, school resource officers, and policy development.
- The Service Division is responsible for the department budget, grant compliance, the detention center, vehicle fleet, records management, and the warrants unit.

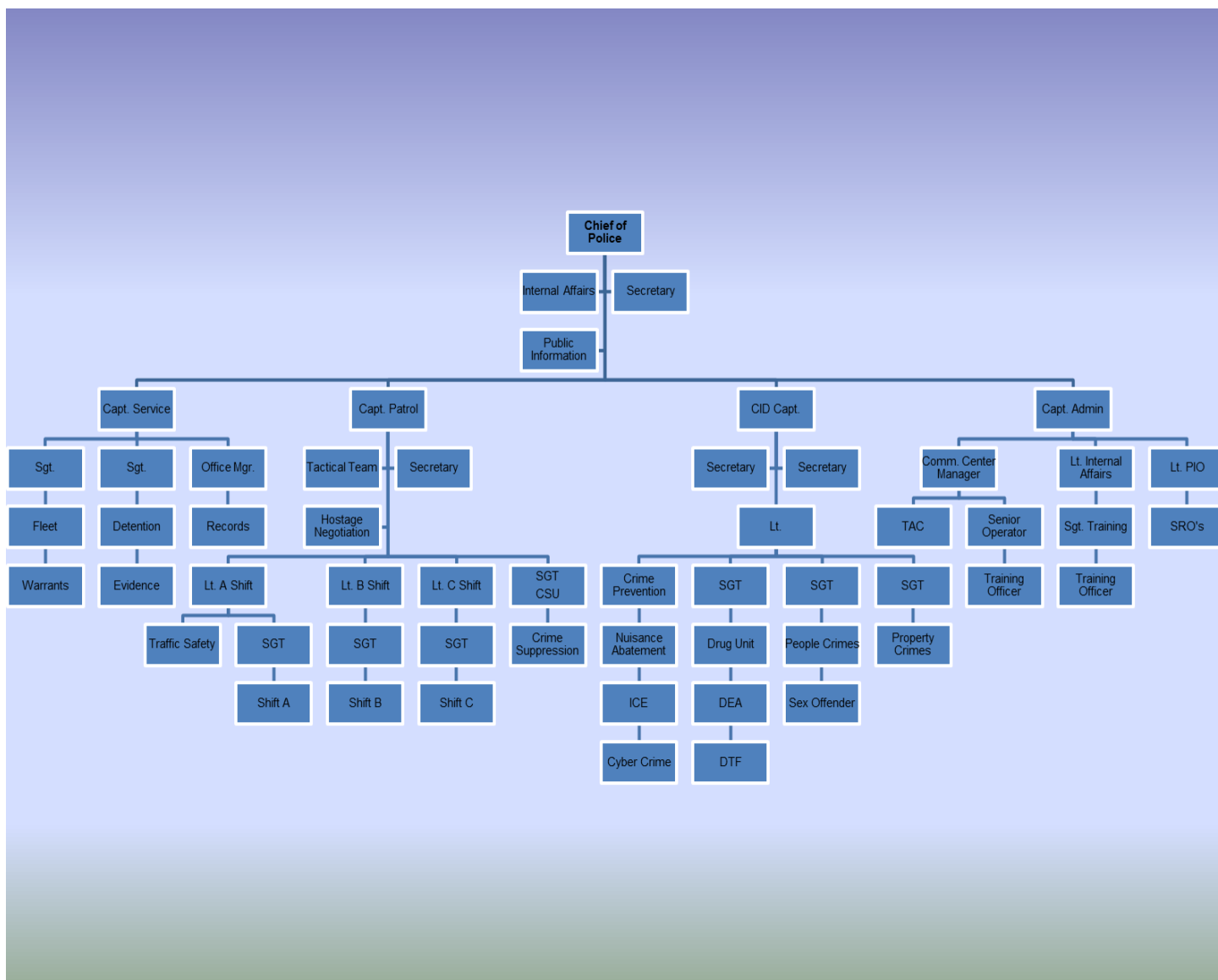
Staffing and Organizational Chart

The Springdale Police Department is structured in the following manner.

Rank	Total 2009	Total 2010	Total 2011
Chief	1	1	1
Captain	4	4	4
Lieutenant	6	6	6
Sergeant	14	13	13
Detective	18	18	18
Training Officer	1	1	1
School Resource Officer	5	6	6
Patrolman	68	68	72
Total Sworn Positions	117	117	121
Crime Analyst/NIBERS Clerk	1*	1	1
Dispatch Manager	1*	0	0
Senior Dispatchers	3	3	3
Terminal Agency Coordinator	1	1	1
Dispatcher	19	19	19
Traffic Safety Officers	2	2	2
Fleet Manager	1	1	1
Mechanic	0	1	1
Officer Manager	0	1	1
Secretary	2	4	4
Clerk	8	5	5
Jailer	9	9	9
Evidence Technician	1	1	1
Total Civilian	47	47	48
Total Employees	164	165	169

**Dispatch Manager was replaced with Crime Analyst NIBERS position during 2009.*

We were able to add four officer positions to the 2011 budget, which allowed us to fill positions on the crime suppression unit, assign an officer to serve warrants, and to increase staffing on the patrol shifts.



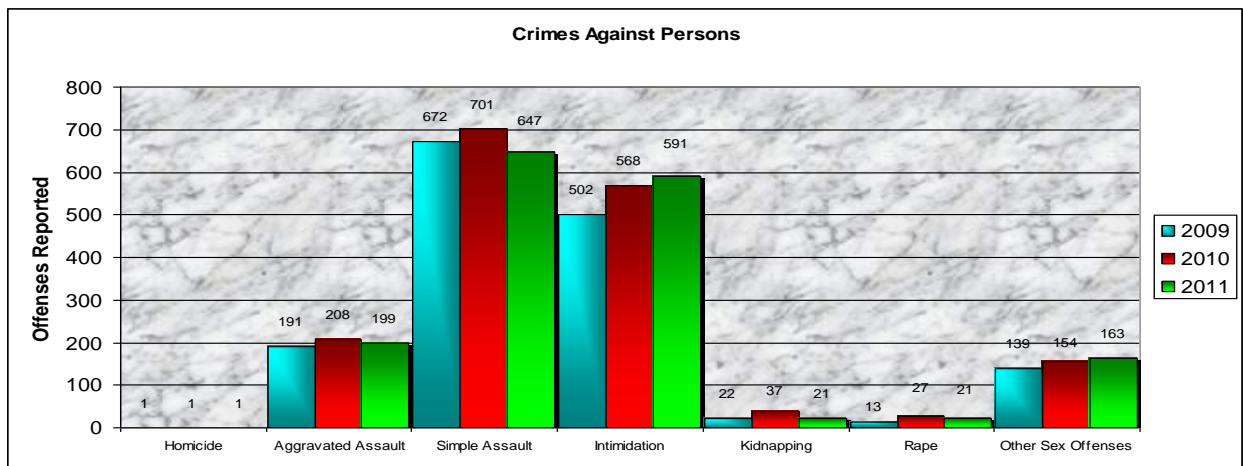
Investigative Division

The Investigative Division is divided into detectives who investigate crimes committed against people, such as rape and robbery, and detectives who investigate property crimes such as burglary and theft. In 2011 investigators were assigned a total of 4,546 cases. This is approximately one case assigned to each investigator for each work day- an increase of about 36% from 2010. This increase was the result of trying to provide a higher level of service to victims.

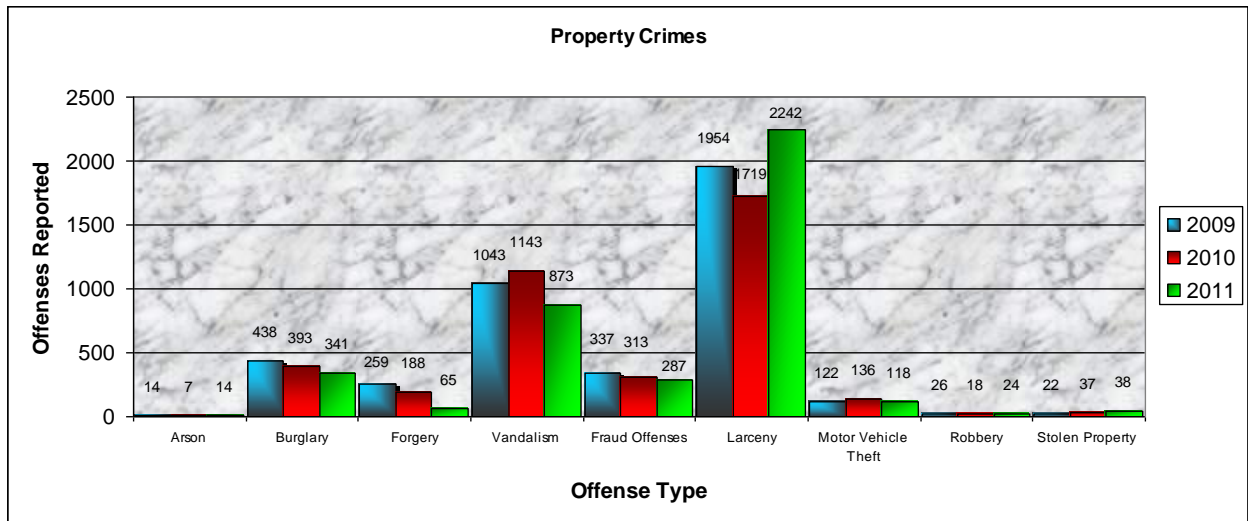
Communications Center

The Communications Center is a 24 hours a day, seven days a week operation. It is currently staffed by 19 dispatchers and three shift supervisors. The center is responsible for dispatching for the Springdale Police Department, Springdale Fire Department, ambulance services for the city and surrounding rural areas, as well as six rural fire departments. There are a total of 16 phone lines into the dispatch center including six 911 lines, three police lines, two fire lines, four non-emergency dispatch lines, and a direct line to the Northwest Medical Center Emergency Room. In 2011, the center handled over 189,000 phone calls, including over 21,000 calls to 911. This means that, on average, a call comes into the communications center every 2.8 minutes, and a 911 call comes into the center every 24.5 minutes. These phone calls, along with officer generated activity, resulted in over 112,000 police actions in 2011 and almost 7,000 fire and medical actions.

Reported Crimes



With the transition to NIBERS from UCR, some crimes appear to have decreased in occurrence while others seem to have gone up. This is due to changes in how the crimes are now defined. Intimidation encompasses offenses that were previously reported under multiple categories, causing the number of incidences to appear to have increased, while kidnapping and rape appear to have decreased due to the offenses previously reported under these categories which are now reported in other areas. Overall crimes against persons have remained relatively flat in 2011 compared to the past two years.



Property crime continues to be the largest category of crime in Springdale. After a drop in 2010, arson rates have risen back to the level they were at in 2009. Burglary is down 22% from 2009 to 2011. Forgery incidences have also decreased due to the reduced use of paper checks. Graffiti accounts for a large percentage of our vandalism reports. In 2010 we had a spike of almost 500 reports of graffiti, which was over 40% of all vandalism reports. In 2011, graffiti reports were down by almost half and constituted only about 30% of reported vandalism. An increase in larceny is in large part due to an increase in shoplifting and people driving away without paying for vehicle fuel. The stolen property category represents the number of cases where we recovered property that was stolen from another jurisdiction.

Society Crimes: This category includes crimes such as drug/narcotic violations, drug equipment violations, gambling offenses, pornography/obscene material, prostitution offenses, and weapon law violations.

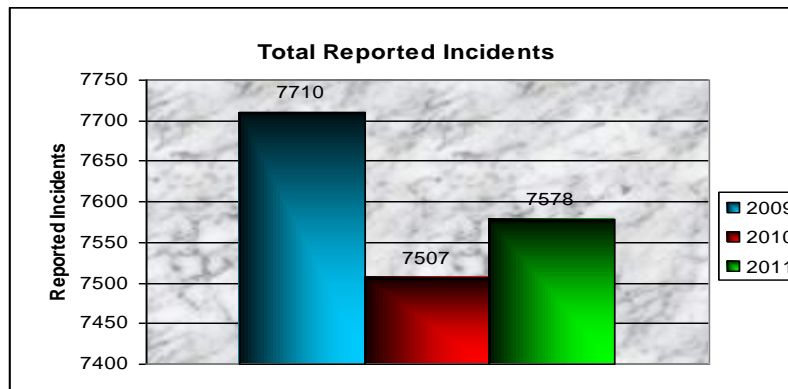
Approximately 85% of crimes that fall under this category are drug / narcotics violations. Most of these charges involve possession of illegal drugs or possession of drug paraphernalia. Drug arrests over the three year period from 2009 to 2011 decreased by a little over 2%; however, drug investigations involving larger organizations distributing higher quantities of drugs have increased. During 2011, several long-term investigations were concluded with numerous indictments and several pounds of methamphetamine being seized. The exact number of arrests and amount of seized drugs are kept by the various federal agencies that head the investigating task forces.

The second most common type crime that falls under this category is weapons violations. These charges are down over 63% in 2011. Many of the cases in the past couple of years have been a result of persons with felony convictions pawning firearms.

We have seen a large reduction in these cases. We feel that the decline is due in part to more people being aware that we are checking everyone who pawns firearms.

Other crimes that fall into this category are gambling, prostitution, and pornography. Investigations into these crimes are normally the result of information provided by citizens. We occasionally do proactive investigations into these types of crimes, but we do not have the problems associated with these crimes that are present in some metropolitan areas.

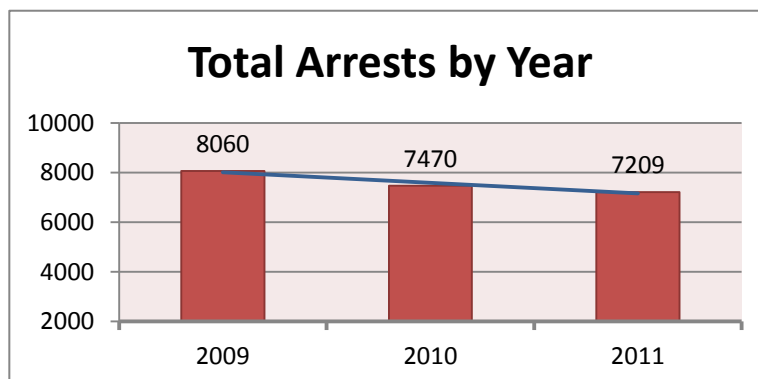
Incident Reports



Officers wrote a total of 7,578 reports in 2011. This is an increase of one percent from 2010.

Over the past three years, the number of calls for service has gone up almost 18% to reach a total of more than 98,000 in 2011. Calls are prioritized by level of seriousness and need for immediate response, from Priority 1 through Priority 7. During the past three years call are up in every priority level except Priority 2, which is down by two tenths of a percent. The largest percentage increase was in Priority 5 calls, which consist of bar checks, directed patrols of high crime areas and checking suspicious vehicles or people.

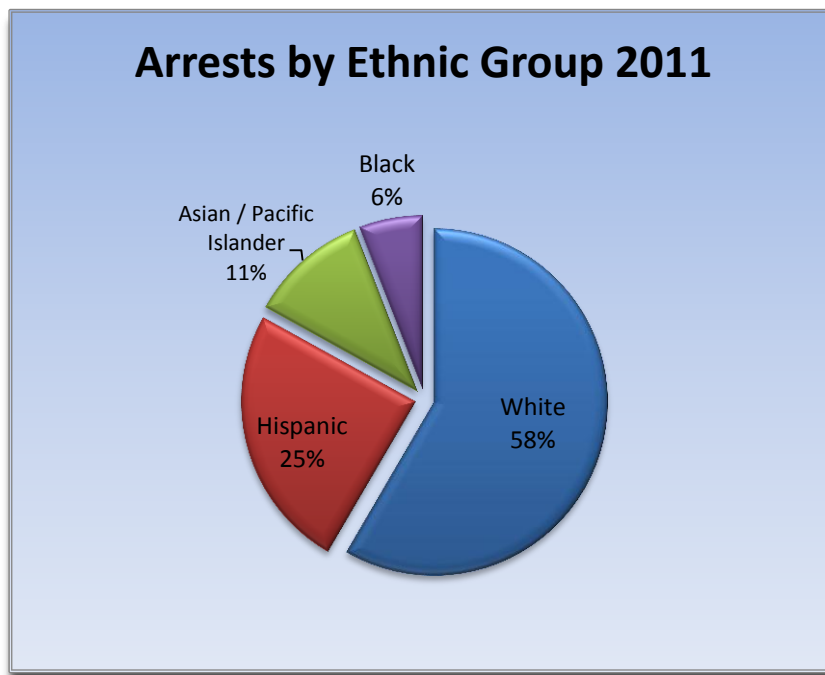
Arrest Data



Overall arrests were down for the third year in a row. The largest decrease was in arrests that were initiated by serving arrest warrants issued by the district court. Over the past

five years there has been an almost 35 percent decrease in warrants issued. The largest increase in number of arrests was for shoplifting, which went up 150% over the three year period to reach more than 500 in 2011. The largest percentage increase was for theft of fuel, or gas drive-offs, which went from three in 2009 to 30 in 2011. The second largest decrease in arrests was for driving while intoxicated. The department receives a grant to pay officers overtime to enforce DWI laws. Over the past three years the numbers of DWI arrests made by officers working under the grant has dropped by more than half, which represents a significant portion of the decline in arrests.

In 2009 juvenile arrests accounted for over 11 percent of total arrests. In 2010 that percentage dropped by about one percent, and in 2011 it dropped to nine percent. The largest decrease in juvenile arrests was for curfew violations, which dropped by over 70 percent over the three year period. During this time, juveniles arrested for shoplifting was up 39% and criminal mischief charges were up by 42%.

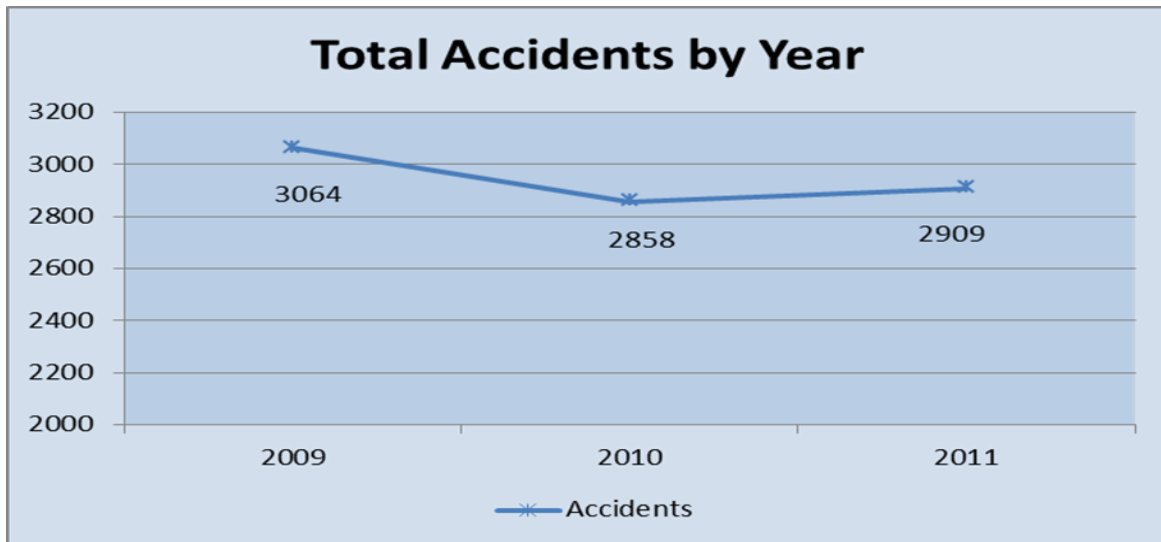


The breakdown of arrests by ethnic group has remained fairly consistent over the past three years and is in proportion to the city demographics according to US Census information.

Traffic Data

Motor vehicle accidents are a big concern for the police department and for the city. In 2011 there were 2,909 accidents reported to the police department. This is about a two percent increase from the previous year. Of these reported accidents seven resulted in a fatality, which we believe is a record for a single year. We are planning some proactive measures in the coming year to identify the most efficient use of resources to reduce the number of motor vehicle accidents. One option we are considering is a speed enforcement evaluator, which is a radar unit that can be left at a location and record traffic counts, average speed and the number of vehicles that exceed the speed limit during a specific time of the day. This allows us to gather data prior to deploying an officer to an area and committing resources for speed enforcement.

The graph below shows a three year trend in total accidents investigated by the department.



The chart below breaks down the type and severity of accidents investigated by the department over the past three years.

Motor Vehicle Accidents							
Year	Accidents	Injury Accidents	Hit and Run Accidents	Private Property Accidents	Fatality Accidents	Private Property Hit and Run	Pedestrian Involved
2009	1731	289	295	490	5	226	28
2010	1597	165	298	536	4	235	23
2011	1673	239	250	487	7	231	22

Internal Affairs / Employee Issues

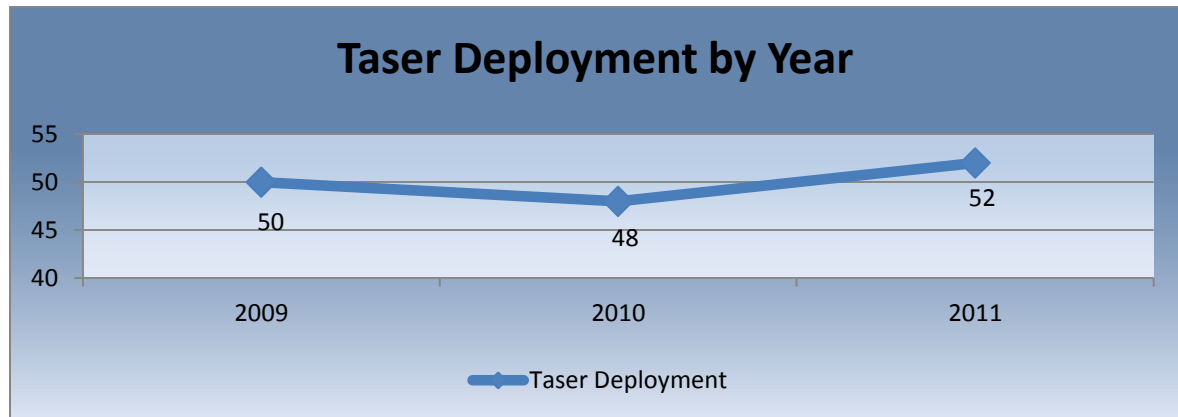
The department tracks key elements of employee behavior that triggers a response by the department to intervene and redirect officers that are identified by the specific criteria. The operation of motor vehicles is an area that poses a risk to the officers as well as to the public. All accidents involving city vehicles and all motor vehicle pursuits are tracked and reviewed for policy compliance.

Accidents involving city vehicles have decreased over each of the past three years, and are down overall by 38%. Motor vehicle pursuits increased in 2011 from 2010, but over the past three years they are down by 26%.

The use of physical force by police officers is another area that is closely tracked and monitored for policy compliance. Sworn law enforcement officers have been granted the authority to use force when necessary to accomplish lawful ends. That authority is grounded in the responsibility of every sworn law enforcement officer to comply with the laws of the State of Arkansas regarding the use of force and to comply with the provisions of the policies of the Springdale Police Department. Every incidence of use of force by a member of the Springdale Police Department is evaluated through a series of reviews. We utilize an early identification system in an effort to identify training deficiencies and proactive approach to use of force issues. The chart below shows that the use of non-Taser related physical force has remained relatively consistent over the past three years.

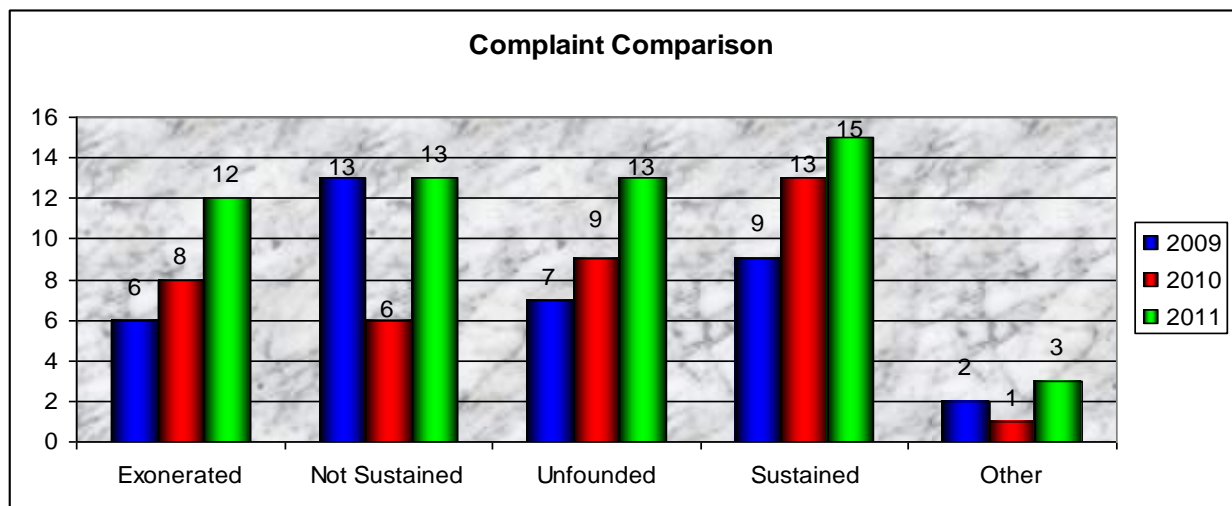
Use of Force (Non-Taser)					
Year	Physical Control	Take Downs	Pepper Spray	Strikes	Baton
2009	15	1	0	9	1
2010	16	2	2	3	1
2011	13	4	0	8	1

The majority of Springdale Police Officers have been trained on the use of the Taser. While the Taser can be a very effective tool to gain compliance from a subject who is an immediate credible threat to the safety of an officer or the public, our policy on its use is constantly being evaluated. The chart below shows that Taser use has not fluctuated significantly over the past three years.



Complaints on Officers

It is the policy of the Springdale Police Department to accept and investigate complaints of allegations of misconduct on the part of any departmental member. In doing so, the department endeavors to be fair both to the complainant and the employee. The number of citizen complaints increased for 2011. We attribute this at least in part to our efforts to make it as easy as possible for a citizen to file a complaint, including the options to file in person, by mail, over the phone, or through the department web site. In 2011 we received 56 complaints filed by citizens against department employees. The following graph represents the final disposition of the complaints.



Dispositions of complaints will fall into one of the following categories.

Exonerated – The acts which provide the basis for the complaint or allegation occurred; however, the investigation revealed that they were justified, lawful and proper.

Non-Sustained – The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to prove or disprove the allegations.

Unfounded – The complaint has been investigated and found to be without merit; the acts or omissions did not occur or are not factual; or the member / employee was not involved in the incident.

Sustained – The allegation(s) is supported by sufficient evidence to indicate that the member / employee did, in fact, commit one or more of the alleged acts.

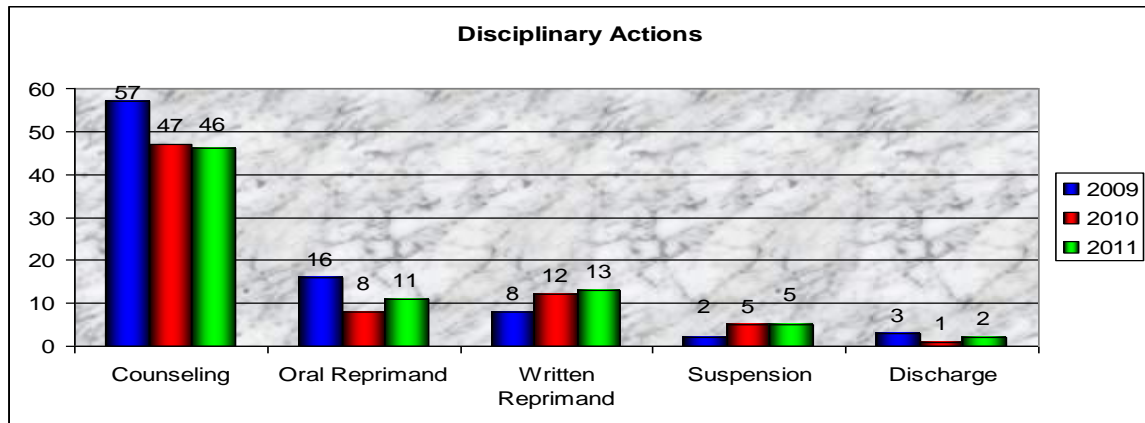
Other – The incident was a result of policy failure, or the investigation was administratively closed with no final conclusion and action cannot be taken.

Internal Affairs Investigations

It is the policy of the Springdale Police Department to promptly investigate all serious allegations of member misconduct in a thorough and expeditious manner. This is normally handled through the Internal Affairs Office. In 2011, eight investigations were assigned to Internal Affairs. Five of the investigations were sustained, resulting in one termination, three suspensions without pay, two reprimands, and one employee being sent for remedial training. Two of the remaining investigations were unfounded, and in the last investigation the employee was exonerated.

Allegations of misconduct or policy violations that do not require an in-depth investigation may be handled by the employee's supervisor. Below is a chart showing all disciplinary action

taken in the past three years. The chart contains discipline that resulted from internal affairs investigations and supervisory observations of misconduct or policy violations.



This report was produced by the Administrative Division of the Springdale Police Department. In accordance with A.C.A. § 12-12-1403 (2011) the Springdale Police Department Policy and Procedure regarding Bias Based Policing is attached for public review and inspection.

Chapter 1

POLICY TITLE: BIASED BASED POLICING

<u>POLICY NUMBER</u>	1.5
<u>RECINDS</u>	New Policy
<u>EFFECTIVE DATE</u>	December 10, 2007
<u>NUMBER OF PAGES</u>	4 pages
<u>DISTRIBUTION</u>	All Sworn Personnel

I. PURPOSE

To describe the department's prohibitions against bias-based profiling as outlined in Arkansas Code 12-12-1401. The purpose of this policy is to unequivocally state that racial and ethnic profiling in law enforcement is totally unacceptable, to provide guidelines for officers to prevent such occurrences, and to protect officers from unwarranted accusations when they act within the dictates of the law and policy.

II. POLICY

It is the policy of the Springdale Police Department to patrol in a proactive manner, to aggressively investigate suspicious persons and circumstances, while insisting that citizens only be stopped or detained when there exists reasonable suspicion to believe they have committed, are committing, or are about to commit, an infraction of the law. The Springdale Police Department neither condones, nor will tolerate, bias-based profiling in traffic contacts, field contacts, asset seizure and forfeiture efforts, or any contacts for a law enforcement purpose. Except as provided for in this procedure, officers shall not rely upon race/ethnicity in establishing either reasonable suspicion or probable cause.

III. DEFINITIONS

- A. **Biased-based Profiling:** means the practice of a law enforcement officer relying, to any degree, on race, ethnicity, national origin, or religion in selecting which individuals to subject to routine investigatory activities, or in deciding upon the scope and substance of law enforcement activity following the initial routine investigatory activity, except that racial profiling does not include reliance on the criteria in combination with other identifying factors when the law enforcement officer is seeking to apprehend a specific suspect whose race, ethnicity, or national origin is part of the description of the suspect, and the description is thought to be reliable and locally relevant.
- B. **Criminal profiling:** is the observation of behavioral characteristics and indicators that have consistently proven to be relevant in the collective experience of law enforcement officers when identifying particular criminal actions and are considered accordingly in determining whether or not there are grounds to reasonably believe that an investigative stop is appropriate.

C. Reasonable suspicion: means a suspicion based on facts or circumstances which of themselves do not give rise to the probable cause requisite to justify a lawful arrest, but which give rise to more than a bare suspicion that is reasonable as opposed to an imaginary or purely conjectural suspicion.

IV. PROCEDURES

A. Employee Responsibility:

1. Officers shall provide the community fair and impartial police services consistent with constitutional and statutory mandates.
2. Officers must be able to articulate specific facts, circumstances and conclusions that support probable cause or reasonable suspicion for an arrest, traffic stop or investigative detention. All investigative detentions, traffic stops, arrests, or searches and seizures of property by officers will be based on a standard of reasonable suspicion or probable cause as required by the Fourth Amendment of the US Constitution and statutory authority.
3. Officers may rely in part on race or national or ethnic origin in taking appropriate action when they are on the lookout for, or are seeking to stop, detain, or apprehend, one or more specific persons who are identified or described, in part, by race or national or ethnic origin.
4. Officers may take into account the reported race or ethnicity of a specific suspect or suspects based on trustworthy, locally relevant information that links a person or persons of a specific race/ethnicity to a particular unlawful incident(s). Race/ethnicity can never be used as the sole basis for probable cause or reasonable suspicion.
5. Allegations of discriminatory or improper practices and other significant misconduct allegations will be investigated by the department's Internal Affairs Section. Where a misconduct allegation is substantiated concerning prohibited discrimination or other serious misconduct disciplinary action shall be imposed.
6. Failure to report any observed or known violations of this Policy Directive by any member of the department shall result in disciplinary action.

B. Officer Responsibility

In an effort to prevent the inappropriate perception of bias-based law enforcement, officers will utilize the following strategies when conducting pedestrian and vehicle stops:

1. Be courteous, polite and professional.
2. Explain to the citizen the reason for the stop as soon as practicable, unless doing so would compromise the safety of officers or other persons or the investigation.

3. Ensure that the length of detention is no longer than necessary to take appropriate action for the known or suspected offense.
4. Answer any questions that the citizen might have, including explaining options for the disposition of related enforcement action.
5. Provide identity by stating full name, jurisdiction and state the reason for the stop and when possible present written identification.

C. Supervisor Responsibility:

1. Monitor police conduct to ensure that the standards of this policy are being carried out by departmental employees, and assuring the highest standards of integrity and ethics among all department members.
2. Utilize procedures for the proactive review of performance, complaint and other employment information to assist in identifying and modifying potentially problematic behavior, and to promote professionalism in the department. Periodic review of mobile video recordings are to be performed to insure officer compliance with this order.

D. Annual Review

1. The Professional Standards Unit will complete an annual review of agency practices involving bias-based policing and forward same to the Chief of Police. At a minimum this review will include:
 - a. Analysis of citizen complaints and/or comments received regarding bias-based policing.
 - b. An overview of training conducted.
 - c. Recommendations as needed or required for changes in procedures and practices.
 - d. A copy of this policy will annually be submitted to the Division of Legislative Audit per Arkansas Code 12-12-1404

E. Training


1. All police department personnel will receive training at least annually on the harms of bias based profiling and discrimination, including the review of this policy.
2. Additional diversity and sensitivity training may be designated for members with sustained bias based profiling or other sustained discrimination complaints filed against them.
3. Those officers who are equipped with mobile video recording equipment will be trained in the proper use, care and maintenance of such equipment as outlined in Mobile Video Recording policy 41.3 .

F. Retaliation

1. No members of the Springdale Police Department, regardless of rank or stature, shall retaliate against officers, civilian, or volunteer employees for reporting incidents of bias law enforcement practices.
2. Actions or behaviors found to constitute retaliation shall be immediately disciplined and may lead to dismissal.

G. Application

1. This order constitutes agency policy and is not intended to enlarge the employee's existing civil or criminal liability in any way. It shall not be construed as the creation of an additional cause of action by either the employee or any third party.

 12-10-2007
Chief Kathy O'Kelley Date